

E390  
.P61



0 011 895 485 3

**permalife•**  
**pH 8.5**

E 390

.P61

Copy 1

FARMERS & MECHANICS, LOOK AT THIS. D

# PICTURES OF THE TIMES;

OR,

A CONTRAST BETWEEN THE  
EFFECTS OF THE TRUE DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM,

AS DISPLAYED UNDER

JEFFERSON, MADISON AND JACKSON

IN FORMER TIMES,

AND THE

EFFECTS OF THE ARISTOCRATIC SUB-TREASURY  
SYSTEM,

AS DISPLAYED IN MARTIN VAN BUREN'S TIME.



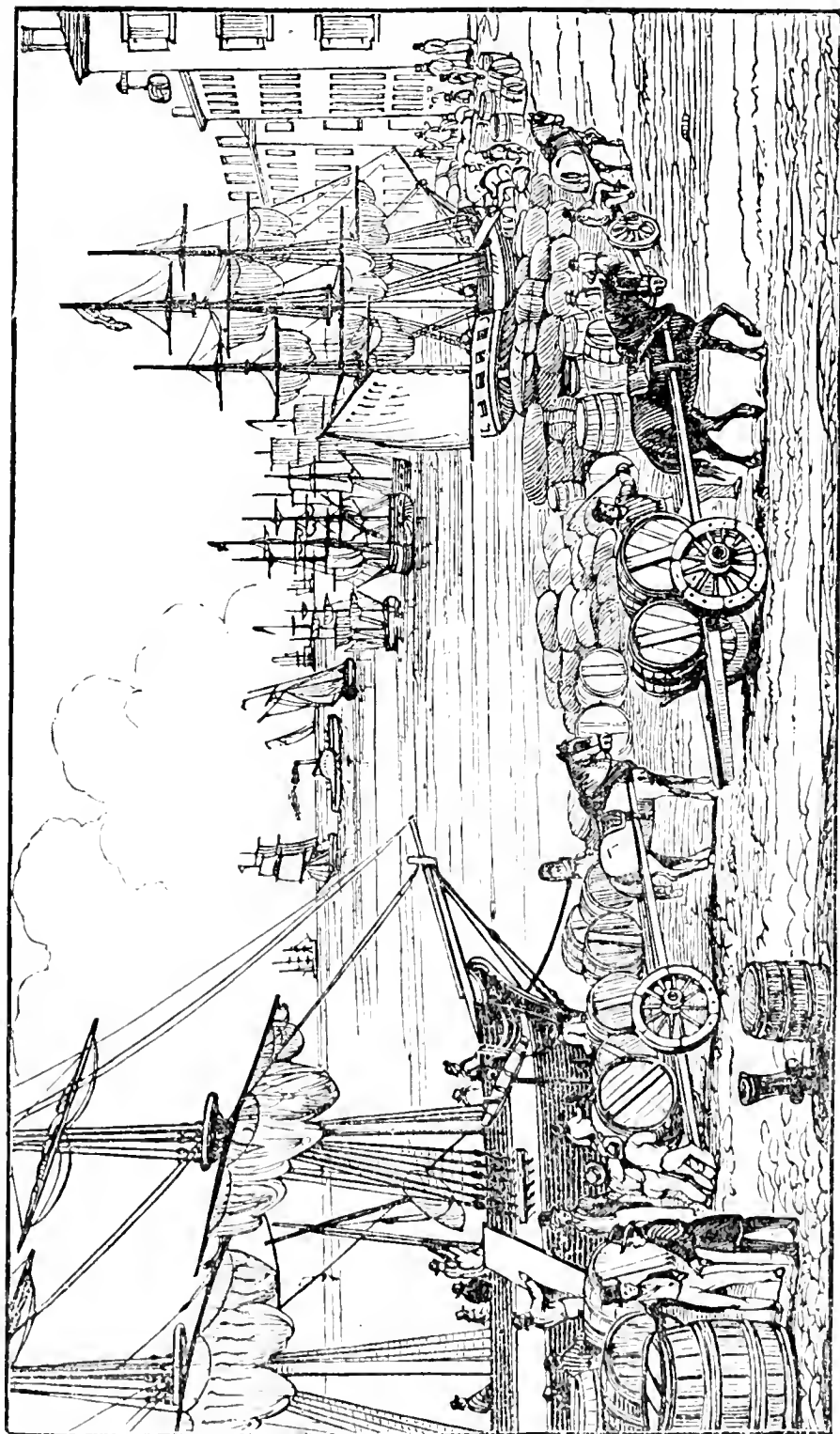
"Look here, upon this picture and on this."—HAMLET.

PHILADELPHIA:  
CROOME, MEIGNELLE AND MINOT.

1840.

290  
p61

PICTURE FIRST.



GOOD TIMES IN THE CITY.

## PICTURE SECOND.

---

### GOOD TIMES IN THE COUNTRY.

AS DISPLAYED UNDER THE OLD DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM TO WHICH  
THE COUNTRY OWES ITS FORMER PROSPERITY.

HERE is another picture of the effects of the system which prevailed under former administrations of the general government, before the government had declared and put in practice their abominable and pernicious doctrines. See the country smiling under the culture of active, happy and well rewarded industry. The farmer's house is neat and in good repair, his fields are well fenced; he has a numerous company of workmen in his employ. They are reaping the noble harvest of grain and conveying it into his spacious barns. He has not the trouble of carrying it to market, for the merchant, by means of a well arranged and wisely conducted system is enabled to purchase his whole crop of grain on the farm, and he pays the farmer for it in bills of specie paying banks, the old fashioned and wholesome currency of the country, the natural medium of exchange of the United States of America, before the humbug of gold currency was put forth by designing politicians to deceive the people.

This picture is but one of a thousand which might have been drawn from the life, in any part of our country, but a few short years since. Every country town and village presented the same appearance of prosperity and content. In our manufacturing districts, too, the same activity and happiness were apparent. All were employed; all were well paid. The currency of the country was so perfectly regulated that every commodity had its true exchangeable value. The merchant in the northern city could sell his goods to a citizen of the extreme south or west, and take his pay in a draft on New Orleans or St. Louis, without the loss of one cent by the transaction. The merchant from the east could purchase pork or wheat in Cincinnati, and pay for it in a draft on Boston without any loss or inconvenience. In consequence of these arrangements facilitating exchanges, whatever was produced or manufactured in one part of the country and wanted in another part, however remote, was sure of a sale at its full value. Our internal commerce was immense, and the commodities of the various parts of our country were all saleable at full prices.

This system, an unrighteous and corrupt government, for its own evil purposes, has destroyed. What is the consequence? The exchanges of the country are thrown into complete confusion. The products of one part of the country cannot be sold in another part on account of the ruinous rate of exchange, which would occasion a heavy loss to the seller. Consequently, the wheat, the pork, the corn, and a thousand other products of agricultural industry remain at home, unsold, or are sacrificed at the most ruinous rates.

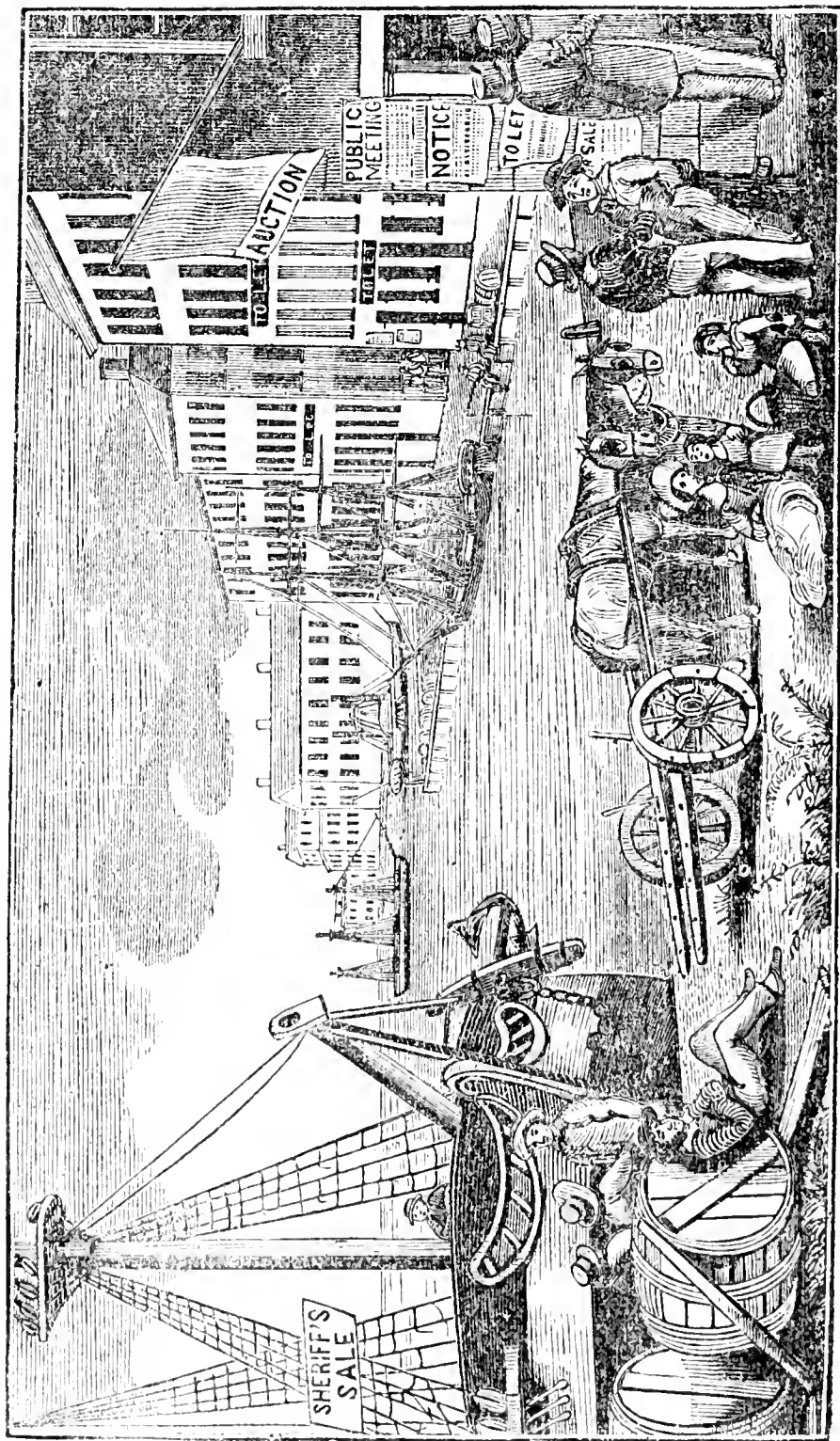
The enemies of the old democratic system tell us, that paper currency is unsound and is constantly exposing the people to loss by the bursting up of banks. They promised, as true friends of the people, to furnish a specie currency sufficient for all the purposes of business and liable to no fluctuations. They told us that the funds of the country were unsafe in the banks and should be placed in the hands of government officers; and they promised by so doing to save money to the people.

How have they redeemed their promises? Instead of bank bills always redeemable in specie for large payments and abundance of specie for small payments, which every man among us knows we always enjoyed in former times, what have the government given us? Bank bills of suspended banks and cart loads of vile shin plasters! TREASURY NOTES PAYABLE ONE YEAR AFTER DATE, to pay the debts of the government, while they demand specie for all government dues, even down to the postage of a letter! Instead of full prices for labor, and for all the products of the farm, the loom, the handsaw and the mallet, what have the government given us? Such ruinously low prices for labor and all its products, that the farmer cannot pay his rent, nor the manufacturer his workmen, nor the mechanic his journeymen. Consequently, thousands are thrown out of employ, and ruin and dismay stalk over the land. All are terror struck, and well they may be. Unless this administration shall speedily be hurled from the seat of power by an indignant people, they will have rivetted with the iron mallet of military despotism the chains which they have forged in the burning ruins of the credit system!!

How have the government redeemed their promise of saving the people's money by taking it out of the keeping of the banks, and putting it into the hands of sub treasurers? Instead of the finances of the country being so safely kept, and its disbursements so carefully checked that not a dollar was lost for a long term of years; we have now sub treasurers, like Swartwout and Price, cheating the people out of millions at a dash and running off to London and Paris, to spend the money earned by the hardy yeomanry of the United States. Instead of husbanding the people's money carefully, and economising in the government expenses, they have squandered the money with the most reckless profusion. EIGHTY THOUSAND DOLLARS have recently been squandered on the President's house alone for French frippery, which a successor of George Washington ought to be ashamed to have in his house. The yearly national expenditure for the support of the government has been trebled, and this without including the millions squandered on favorite contractors during the Florida war. Extravagance and reckless profusion are the order of the day at the seat of government, and in the palaces of the office holders in our great cities, while want and misery are depressing and destroying the people. Thus have the government redeemed their promises.



PICTURE THIRD.



HARD TIMES IN THE CITY.



ominous advertisements of "SHERIFF'S SALE!" "SHERIFF'S SALE!" "SHERIFF'S SALE!" Farms, plantations, houses, stores, mills, ships, furniture, stock of farms, stock in trade—all are sacrificed—because people are unable to obtain the usual facilities of business, and the usual wholesome prices of produce. The sands upon thousands of once happy and respectable families are reduced to utter ruin. Who can tell the number of broken hearts—who can tell the number of desolated firesides, which have resulted from the destructive measures of our cruel and unprincipled rulers?

For all these things, fellow citizens, THERE IS A REMEDY. Foreigners have wondered—have held up their hands in amazement, that a free and intelligent people could bear so many oppressions from a government of their own creation. But we have borne them, fellow citizens, because we knew that the remedy was in our own hands. We have borne them, hitherto, because we knew that, at the coming election, we could make a change for the better. As a people we are now resolved that we will make that change. The time has come for making the change. The man is selected who shall be our next president and shall restore the GOOD OLD TIMES. The people have already recognised in the *faithful public servant of past times, the eligible public servant for the future*. They have named him with acclamation. The loud and deep shouts of vast multitudes, from the battle grounds of Tippecanoe, of Fort Meigs, and of the Thames are already resounding in our ears, with enthusiastic acclaim, that

**"WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON IS THE MAN!"**

And the shouts of other thousands, yea, of millions from every part of the union echo the cheerful response.

**"AYE, WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON IS THE MAN!"**

He shall restore the constitution and the laws to their wonted supremacy. He shall arrest the mad schemes of destructives and experiment makers. He shall restore the treasury of the United States to the keeping of congress from whose custody it has been wrested by corruption, intrigue and intimidation. He shall bring back the prosperity which has been driven from our borders. He shall make the heart of the desolate leap for joy. He shall restore the cheerful hum of industry to the farm, the workshop, the ship-yard and the wharf. He has shown his abilities in the field and in the council chamber. He has proved himself the friend of the poor and industrious man. He has exhibited the most unquestionable proofs of fidelity, disinterestedness and integrity in every public trust. He has had millions of the public money pass through his hands, and those hands are still unsoiled by any corrupt gains. He is still a poor man. He sympathises with the sufferings of the oppressed sons of industry throughout our land. He will bring them relief. We will not permit ourselves to doubt that the suffrages of a free people will shortly place him at the head of affairs; that he will soon be on his triumphal journey to the capitol, and that when he is on his way, "the ear that hears him shall bless him, the eye that sees him shall bear witness to him, and every tongue shall exclaim

**LONG LIFE TO THE HERO OF TIPPECANOE!"**



## PICTURE FOURTH.

---

### HARD TIMES IN THE COUNTRY.

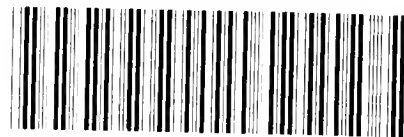
AS DISPLAYED IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE UNITED STATES UNDER  
THE PRESENT ARISTOCRATIC SUB TREASURY SYSTEM.

THIS picture is a perfect contrast to that of "Good Times in the Country."— Instead of finding a ready sale for his produce at fair prices, which enable him to meet all his engagements, pay his taxes, rent, and workmen, and lay up something snug at the end of the year, the farmer finds the prices of his produce suddenly depressed so much, that he cannot raise money enough to make, as the old saying is, both ends meet. "No credit! No credit!" is the cry. Pay the money down, or the sheriff will seize your stock and furniture. The indebted man turns to his neighbors for help. But they are suffering in the same way. The sheriff, sure enough, comes. The farmer's hay, his grain, his horses, his cattle, his very household furniture all are seized and sold under the hammer! See the unfortunate man surrounded by his hardy sons, who have laboured just as hard to produce the last crop at half price, as they ever labored for a crop which under the good old credit system produced a full price. But they have toiled in vain. The mad experiments of the government on the currency, have nearly destroyed that currency. Money is scarcer than it ever was since the adoption of the Federal Constitution. Prices of labor and produce are so low, that the farmer who owes for land, stock or rent, at the old rates is necessarily ruined. All he has, goes under the hammer. He sees the very articles which were purchased for the price of a day's or a week's hard work, sold for a sixpence. The household furniture which his family has used so long as to become attached to it like an old friend, is sacrificed for a mere song. All goes "at one fell swoop;" and he wanders forth from his homestead a ruined and desolate man. His family is scattered, his wife is broken hearted; and he is compelled once more to begin the world, at a time of life, when, but for the wicked and unprincipled conduct of his government, he would have been enjoying the fruits of a life of toil, in an old age of peace and competency.

This is no imaginary picture. Whole states in the union can attest its truth. Let any one step into a reading room or printing office, and look at the papers from all parts of the Union. He will find whole columns filled with those



LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 011 895 485 3